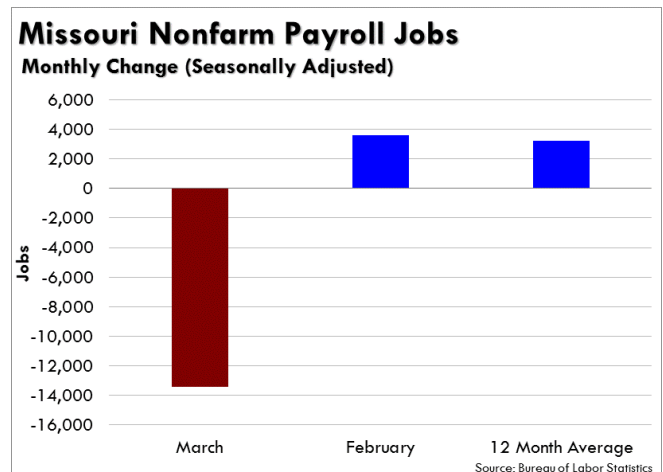
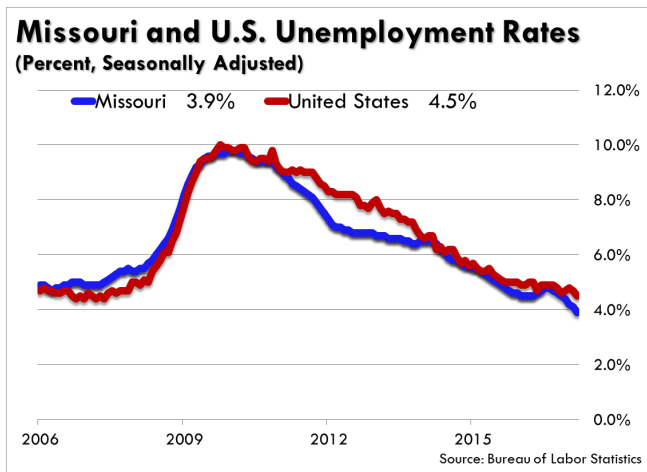


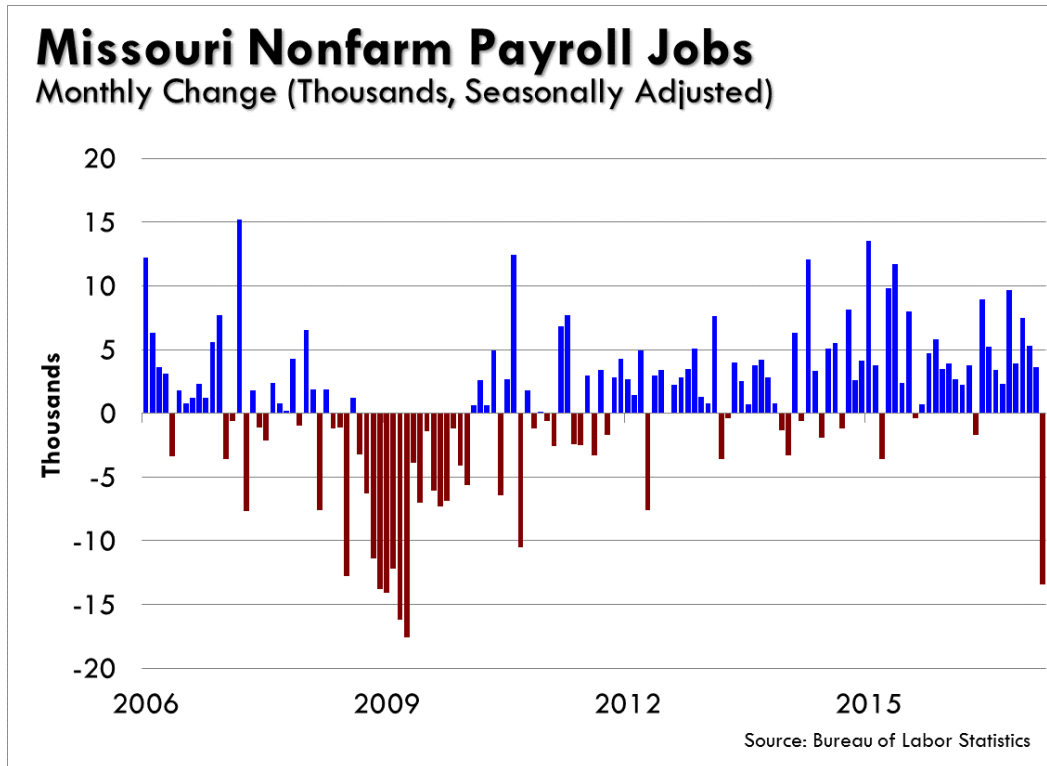


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Missouri lost 13,400 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 3.9 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Missouri added 38,500 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.6 percentage point from 4.5 percent.
- **In March, Missouri's private sector lost 13,200 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 35,900 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Missourians fell by 6,467 in March**, and over the past year 30,902 Missourians found jobs.
- Missouri's **labor force participation rate decreased to 64.9 percent** from 65.1 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.4 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Missouri Payroll Employment

Missouri lost 13,400 jobs, or 0.47 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Missouri added 3,600 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Missouri increased by 38,500, or 1.36 percent. Missouri nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 10 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Missouri ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

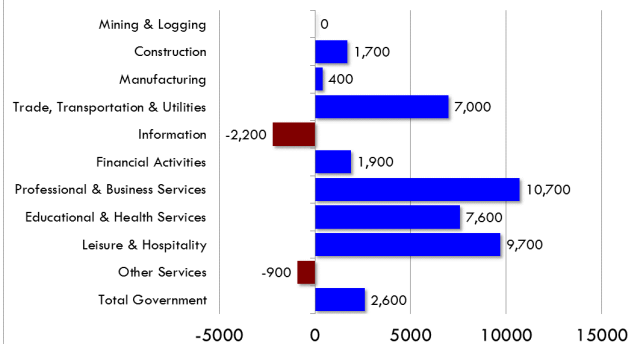
During March, Missouri's private-sector lost 13,200 jobs, or 0.54 percent. The private-sector in Missouri added 6,000 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Missouri increased by 35,900, or 1.50 percent. Missouri private-sector payroll employment has increased in 10 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Missouri ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Manufacturing (+1,900) and Financial Activities (+900). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-3,600) and Construction (-3,600).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+10,700) and Leisure & Hospitality (+9,700). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-2,200) and Other Services (-900).

Change in Missouri Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted.

Missouri Labor Force Statistics

Labor Force Participation

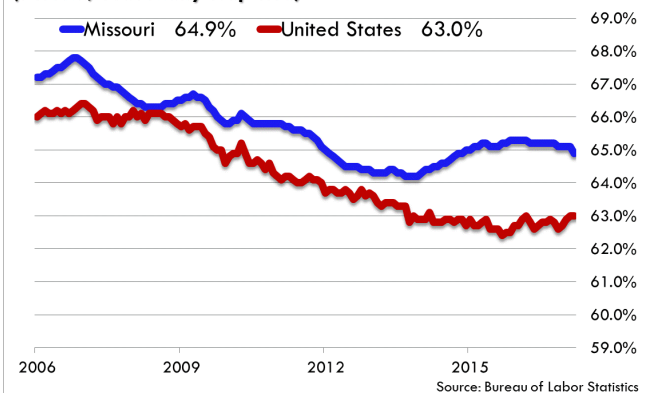
The labor force participation rate in Missouri declined to 64.9 percent in March from 65.1 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 19 have a higher labor force participation rate than Missouri. The labor force participation rate in Missouri is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Missouri was 67.2 percent in April 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Missouri occurred in September 1996 when the labor force participation rate hit 71.4 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 64.2 percent in December 2013. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in January 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 59.8 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Missouri civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at 62.4 percent in March. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 18 have higher

Missouri and U.S. Labor Force Participation (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

employment-to-population ratios than Missouri. The employment-to-population ratio in Missouri is unchanged from a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Missouri was 63.9 percent in April 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Missouri occurred in September 1996 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 68.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.4 percent in February 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio was 56.1 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

